

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for training an animal subject when in the field, comprising the method steps of:

- (a) providing a portable master controller with a first telemetry transmitter/receiver, a display and a first Global Positioning System receiver, all connected to and responsive to a first CPU having a memory;
- (b) providing a collar carrying a second telemetry transmitter/receiver, a second Global Positioning System receiver and an electrical feedback stimulus generator, each connected to and responsive to a second CPU having a memory;
- (c) affixing said collar to a subject animal;
- (d) setting a first boundary defining a first restraint area within which the animal subject is permitted to travel and storing said first boundary in said collar CPU memory;
- (e) detecting a first collar location using the collar Global Positioning System receiver, and comparing the collar location to said first boundary;
- (f) actuating the collar feedback stimulus if said collar location is outside said first boundary;
- (g) setting a second boundary defining a second restraint area within which the animal subject is permitted to travel and storing said second boundary in said collar CPU memory, said second restraint area being different than said first restraint area;
- (h) detecting a second collar location using the collar Global Positioning

System receiver, and comparing the collar location to said first boundary;

(i) actuating the collar feedback stimulus if said second collar location is outside said second boundary.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising the method steps of:

(j) carrying said portable master controller from a first master controller location within said first restraint area to a second master controller location within said second restraint area;

(k) determining the GPS coordinates of said second master controller location within said second restraint area;

(l) defining third restraint area said third area being different than said second restraint area;

(m) transmitting GPS coordinates describing said third restraint area from said master controller to said collar; and

(n) storing said third restraint area in said collar CPU memory.

3. The method of claim 2, further comprising the method steps of:

(o) setting a third boundary defined by said third restraint area within which the animal subject is permitted to travel and storing said third boundary in said collar CPU memory;

(p) detecting a third collar location using the collar Global Positioning System receiver, and comparing the collar location to said third boundary;

(q) actuating the collar feedback stimulus generator if said third collar location is outside said third boundary.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein said collar feedback stimulus generator includes one or more electric shock circuits.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein step (d) setting a first boundary defining a first restraint area within which the animal subject is permitted to travel and storing said first boundary in said collar CPU memory, comprises:

- (d)(i) actuating a control input on said collar;
- (d)(ii) sensing the GPS coordinates of the collar;
- (d)(iii) calculating an enclosed circular area of selected size centered on the then current GPS coordinates of the collar;
- (d)(iv) setting the first restraint area to be substantially co-extensive with said enclosed circular area; and
- (d)(v) storing said first boundary in said collar CPU memory.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein step (d) setting a first boundary defining a first restraint area within which the animal subject is permitted to travel and storing said first boundary in said collar CPU memory, comprises:

- (d)(i) actuating a control input on said collar;
- (d)(ii) sensing the GPS coordinates of the collar at a first way point;

- (d)(iii) sensing the GPS coordinates of the collar at a second way point;
- (d)(iv) sensing the GPS coordinates of the collar at a third way point;
- (d)(v) calculating an enclosed polygonal area using the GPS coordinates of the first, second and third way points;
- (d)(vi) setting the first restraint area to be substantially co-extensive with said enclosed polygonal area; and
- (d)(vii) storing said first boundary in said collar CPU memory.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein step (d) setting a first boundary defining a first restraint area within which the animal subject is permitted to travel and storing said first boundary in said collar CPU memory, comprises:

- (d)(i) actuating a control input on said collar;
- (d)(ii) sensing the GPS coordinates of the collar while carrying the collar along a desired boundary line;
- (d)(iii) setting the first boundary to be coextensive with said desired boundary line: and
- (d)(vii) storing said first boundary in said collar CPU memory.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein step (d) setting a first boundary defining a first restraint area within which the animal subject is permitted to travel and storing said first boundary in said collar CPU memory, comprises:

- (d)(i) actuating a control input on said collar;

(d)(ii) sensing the GPS coordinates of the collar while carrying the collar along the perimeter of a desired restraint area;

(d)(iii) setting the first boundary to be substantially coextensive with said perimeter of said desired restraint area; and

(d)(iv) storing said first boundary in said collar CPU memory.

9. A method for training an animal subject when in the field, comprising the method steps of:

(a) providing a portable master controller with a display, a first telemetry transmitter/receiver, a display and a first Global Positioning System receiver, all connected to and responsive to a first CPU having a memory;

(b) providing a collar carrying a second telemetry transmitter/receiver, a second Global Positioning System receiver and an electrical feedback stimulus generator, each connected to and responsive to a second CPU having a memory;

(c) affixing said collar to a subject animal;

(d) carrying said portable master controller to a first master controller location;

(e) determining the GPS coordinates of said first master controller location;

(f) defining a first restraint area and storing the GPS coordinates corresponding to said first restraint area in said master controller memory;

(g) transmitting said GPS coordinates corresponding to said first

restraint area from said master controller to said collar; and

(n) storing said GPS coordinates corresponding to said first restraint area in said collar CPU memory.

10. The method of claim 9, further comprising the method steps of:

(o) setting a first boundary defined by said first restraint area within which the animal subject is permitted to travel and storing said first boundary in said collar CPU memory; and

(p) detecting a first collar location using the collar Global Positioning System receiver, and comparing the first collar location to said first boundary.

11. The method of claim 10, further comprising the method step of:

(q) actuating the collar feedback stimulus if said first collar location is outside said first boundary.

12. The method of claim 10, further comprising the method step of:

(q) displaying a representation of said first collar location and said first boundary on said portable master controller display.

13. The method of claim 10, further comprising the method steps of:

(q) actuating the collar feedback stimulus if said first collar location is outside said first boundary; and

(r) displaying a representation that said first collar location is outside said first boundary on said portable master controller display.

14. The method of claim 10, further comprising the method step of:

(q) transmitting a selected specific command signal from said portable master controller to said collar to convey a first command, said first command being selected from the group comprising: stay, come, sit, retrieve and flush.

15. A portable system for use in locating or training a mobile subject, comprising:

(a) a portable master controller including a housing that encloses and supports a first telemetry transmitter/receiver, a display, and a first Global Positioning System receiver, all connected to and responsive to a first CPU having a memory;

(b) a wearable support carrying a second telemetry transmitter/receiver tunable to communicate with said first transmitter/receiver, a second Global Positioning System receiver and an electrical feedback stimulus generator, each connected to and responsive to a second CPU having a memory;

(c) wherein said master controller CPU is programmed to receive GPS location coordinates from said first Global Positioning System receiver, and to receive GPS location coordinates from said second Global Positioning System receiver via a channel of communication maintained between said second telemetry transmitter/receiver and said wearable first transmitter/receiver.

16. The portable system of claim 15, wherein said wearable support electrical feedback stimulus generator comprises a circuit adapted to give a feedback signal in the form of an electric shock.

17. The portable system of claim 15, wherein said wearable support electrical feedback stimulus generator comprises an annunciator adapted to communicate in spoken commands, in response to receiving selected command signals from said master controller.

18. The portable system of claim 15, further comprising:

(d) a second wearable support carrying a third telemetry transmitter/receiver tunable to communicate with said first transmitter/receiver, a third Global Positioning System receiver and an electrical feedback stimulus generator, each connected to and responsive to a third CPU having a memory;

(e) wherein said master controller CPU is programmed to receive GPS location coordinates from said third Global Positioning System receiver via a channel of communication maintained between said third telemetry transmitter/receiver and said wearable first transmitter/receiver.

19. The portable system of claim 15, wherein said master controller display is programmed to display a representation of the location of said wearable support.



20. The portable system of claim 19, wherein said master controller display is programmed to display a representation of the location of said master controller.